



# GOMPERS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A UCSD PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

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## **GPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

January 16, 2018 - 5:00 p.m.

GPA Wingspan; Dr. Cecil H. Steppe Presiding

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cecil H. Steppe, Pete Chodzko, Rafael Hernandez, Jeremy Hurlbert, Myeisha Lobbins, Bud Mehan, Jacque Nevels, Vincent Riveroll, and Anne Spitzberg.

### **EXCUSED:**

Maria Cruz Avalos, Michelle Evans, Mica Pollock, and Michael Rodrigues.

### **GPA STAFF PRESENT AND SPEAKING GUESTS OR VISITORS:**

John Bartholomew, Jane Levenson, Jenny Parsons, Lisa Maples, Paz Garcia Ramirez, Linda Alva, Randee Meek, Anne Robinson, Melissa Bitanga, Shelma Soto, Jameia Johnson, Larry Tamayo, and Shelly Buono.

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:02p.m. by Mr. Steppe. He asked for any public comment and there were none. Board members reviewed the agenda items and minutes from the November 28, 2017 board meeting.

*Motion to approve November's minutes m/s/c Mehan/Spitzberg 9 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed*

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Mr. Steppe mentioned that he would like to call a special board meeting in February that excludes GPA board staff members to do Director's evaluation. He will send an email to suggest possible dates or please let him know if you have some suggested dates to meet.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Director welcomed everyone to 2018. Thanks to our partnership with Scripps Performing Arts Center and a generous donation from Jimbo's Naturally, our GPA teachers were hosted to a delicious Teacher Appreciation luncheon and left with full bellies and grateful hearts. December to Remember was hosted on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> and Encore Visual and Performing Arts, choir, and dance put on a special showcase in the lower courtyard prior to the opening night of Musical Production's Holiday Wishes. PTSC raised \$1,000 for our school programs. Holiday Wishes included song, dance and multimedia features and feedback suggested it was GPA's best performance yet.

Parent Preparatory Academy is going strong under AD Maples' leadership with the most recent event featuring an immigration lawyer speaking and answering questions from our parents. Thirty-two of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders participated in Grossmont College's "We the People" annual debate recently. GPA students earned a first place award in this debate. Winter Intersession saw approximately 150 students receiving additional instruction in reading or math with the web-based Learning Upgrade driving instruction and progress monitoring. Also over winter break, our cheer team participated in the San Diego County Holiday Bowl and they received an award from World Strides. Construction began on GPA's campus-wide Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) project and air conditioning should be coming to all classrooms and offices by the early fall.

169 staff members started back from winter break with a Welcome Back Breakfast and Professional Development. All staff focused on the text *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie. Staff will continue learning with this book in their department Professional Learning Communities in the coming months. Teachers and classroom staff engaged in more professional reading with the text *Teaching Gifted Students in Today's Classroom*,

by Susan Winebrenner. Teachers will continue to revisit this text in grade level and department meetings throughout the year. Finally, over winter break AD Maples lead Annex Renovation improvements at Weaver Hall (a building GPA is leasing from a neighboring church) that will house some support staff and allow classrooms to be freed up for student needs.

Next up for GPA are Parent Teacher Conferences and Quarter 2 Finals. The conferences are a student-led conference process in which grade level teams meet with parents and students as the student walks the group through their present levels, progress, areas of strength, areas of growth and next steps as a learner. February 5-9 is Homecoming Week and this year the Homecoming Game will be our girls varsity soccer game. SDUSD audit will take place on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>.

- A. Comprehensive School Safety Plan: Mr. Hurlbert discussed the 328-page document that was sent electronically to everyone on Friday for review. He brought a hard copy and discussed what's in the report and what's been updated.

*Motion to approve Comprehensive School Safety Plan m/s/c Chodzko/Hernandez 9 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

A. Monthly Financials:

Mr. Chodzko reviewed the November financials and that GPA has 21% reserve cash on hand. Mr. Tamayo reported on the state budget and Governor Brown proposes fully funding the Local Control Funding Formula by next year. The Governor is also proposing one-time funds, as well. GPA will begin the budgeting process now for next year. GPA's attendance rate is 96.4%, which has greatly helped our financial situation. Ms. Parsons reported that when compared to other SDUSD high schools, GPA would be ranked second in attendance and for middle schools, GPA is ranked at the top of the list.

*Motion for acceptance of monthly financials m/s/c Finance Committee/Nevels 9 In favor – 0 Abstentions – None opposed*

B. First Interim Report:

Mr. Chodzko discussed the report as it was presented in the Finance Committee meeting.

*Motion for approval of the First Interim Report as recommended by the Finance Committee m/s/c Finance Committee/Lobbins 9 In favor – 0 Abstentions – None opposed*

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Mr. Bartholomew summarized the Education Committee's meeting which included discussing the professional learning from *Teaching Gifted Kids in Today's Classroom* and *How to Win Friends and Influence People*. He also discussed upcoming quarter finals and the math and reading enrichment programs.

**DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Mr. Chodzko discussed the fundraising to this point: \$219,113.81 funds have been raised and the Grants Outstanding total \$187,552. Funds remaining to be raised are \$363,334.19. The committee is purchasing software called Foundation Search to help with fund raising efforts and it has a money back guarantee. The Black Minds Matter concert series is coming to GPA on Feb. 23 at 7:00 pm. Mr. Chodzko is requesting that board members purchase/sell 10+ tickets for this event. A VIP ticket is \$25 and a general admission ticket is \$10. Ms. Nevels spoke about this group who is well known in Los Angeles and around the country. She emphasized the ticket prices are very reasonable for this phenomenal group and encouraged everyone to attend. One GPA student will receive a scholarship the night of the concert.

Mr. Chodzko also reminded the board they could also support GPA by helping with school supply donations, gift card donations for teacher rewards, and to provide a list of 10 potential donors to add to GPA's donor list. Ms.

Nevels complimented Mr. Chodzko's development efforts. On January 31<sup>st</sup> Supervisor Greg Cox will be on campus. One of the grants GPA is working to receive would be from his office, so Mr. Chodzko and Mr. Steppe will be touring him to show him the needs. Ms. Nevels reminded everyone that other groups will also be touring our campus over the next 3+ months.

**BOARD AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

No report submitted.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

No report submitted.

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m. m/s/c Mehan/Hernandez 9 In favor – 0 Abstentions – None opposed*